

# PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION IN POLICE REFORM: A CONSULTATION FOR THE NORTH EAST

Facilitated by  
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI),  
Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research,  
Centre for Organisation, Research and Education (CORE) Manipur,  
North East Network (NEN)

Guwahati  
February 21 – 22, 2007

## AGENDA

Day 1  
Wednesday, 21 February 2007

### Inaugural Session

9:00 - 9:30 am	<b>Registration</b>
9:30 - 9:50 am	<b>Welcome and Introduction of Collaborating Organisations</b> Shobha Sharma and Devika Prasad, CHRI Roy Laifungbam, Director, CORE Manipur Samhita Barooah, NEN Sanjoy Hazarika, Executive Committee Member, CHRI and Managing Trustee C-NES
9:50 - 10:00 am	<b>Objectives of the Consultation</b> Sanjoy Hazarika, CHRI and C-NES

### Session 1: The Police We Have, The Police We Deserve

The aims of this session are to:

1. Explore the basis for police reform through listing complaints with the state of policing, and brainstorming causes of complaints
2. Raise awareness about the concept of democratic policing

10:00 - 10:10 am	<b>Group Exercise: Have Your Say</b> All participants introduce themselves to their neighbour. Half the group notes down 3 major complaints they have with the police. The other half notes down 3 major causes for the current problems with the police.
10:10 - 10:30 am	<b>Summing Up</b> Each pair reports back and the moderator will record responses. The moderator will speak to the commonalities and sum up for the whole group. Moderated by Shobha Sharma, CHRI
10:30 - 10:45am	<b>What is Democratic Policing?</b> CHRI will briefly outline the essential elements of democratic policing and draw from other Commonwealth countries' experiences of police reform. Presentation by Devika Prasad, CHRI
10:45 - 11:00 am	<b>Morning Tea Break</b>

## Session 2: Paving the Way for Systemic Change

The aims of this session are to:

1. Provide information on the two current, major police reform initiatives in India: the Supreme Court directives and the Police Act Drafting Committee's Model Police Act 2006, and
2. Present an update on North East states governments' compliance with the Supreme Court directives

<b>11:00 - 11:30 am</b>	<b>Pillars of Reform: Supreme Court directives and Model Police Act 2006</b> – Presentation by Devika Prasad and Shobha Sharma, CHRI CHRI will give a presentation explaining each directive particularly to point to how each paves the way for reform. Relevant provisions of the Model Police Act 2006 will also be referred to.
<b>11:30 - 12:00 pm</b>	<b>What's happening across the North East?</b> Designated state representatives provide current updates on compliance: Meghalaya: P.C Chakraborty, Member, State Security Commission Assam: To be advised Manipur: Roy Laifungbam, CORE Manipur Mizoram: David Thangliana, Journalist Nagaland: Monalisa Chankija, Journalist Sikkim: PD Rai Tripura: Mohan Deb Barman Arunachal Pradesh: Jarjum Ete, Chairperson, State Commission for Women
<b>12:00 – 1:00 pm</b>	<b>Discussion on Supreme Court directives and state compliance</b> , moderated by Roy Laifungbam, CORE Manipur
<b>1:00 – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>

## Session 3: Exploring Diverse Interventions in the Police Reform Process

The aims of this session are to:

- 1) Give voice to a range of North East perspectives on interventions in police reform processes
- 2) Identify the challenges and their solutions in the implementation of the Supreme Court directives.

<b>2:00 – 2:40</b>	<b>Interactive Panel Discussion:</b> <i>Media as Sentinels of Police Reform:</i> Pradip Phanjoubam, Imphal Free Press <i>Insights from a Police Reform Committee:</i> Patricia Mukhim and PC Chakraborty, former members, Police Reform Committee, Meghalaya <i>Action by NGOs at the grassroots:</i> Roy Laifungbam, CORE Manipur and Samhita Barooah, NEN Moderated by Sanjoy Hazarika
<b>2:40 – 3:00 pm</b>	<b>Q&amp;A of Panel Speakers</b> , moderated by Sanjoy Hazarika
<b>3:00 – 3:15 pm</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea Break</b>
<b>3:15 – 4:00 pm</b>	<b>Making the Supreme Court directives work</b> , small group workshops facilitated by Devika Prasad and Shobha Sharma, CHRI Participants divide into small groups by geographical clusters to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the challenges to implementation?</li> <li>• How can these challenges be overcome?</li> </ul>
<b>4:00 – 4:30 pm</b>	Report back on small group discussions
<b>4:30 – 4:45 pm</b>	Drawing common threads and close for the day

Day 2  
Thursday, 22 February 2007

### **Final Session: Action for Change**

*Objective: The final session of the consultation will be geared towards moving the group to:*

- 1) Engage in a practical consideration of the technical knowledge, skills, and strategies required to make effective interventions*
- 2) Commit to the agreed individual and collective steps to be taken in the short, medium, and long term*
- 3) Draft a document to state governments calling for public participation and consultation in the police reform process*

<b>9:00 – 9:15 am</b>	<b>Welcome and Recap</b>
<b>9:15 –12:00 pm</b>	<b>Action for Change</b> , facilitated by Devika Prasad and Shobha Sharma, CHRI The group will map its needs in terms of technical knowledge, networks, and capacities to be effective catalysts for change. The group will chalk out an outline of the next steps each participant/state can undertake. In addition, participants will draft a document to state governments calling for public participation in the police reform process.
<b>12:00 – 12:15</b>	<b>Vote of Thanks and Evaluation</b>

